

May 16, 2005

Florida Highway Patrol
Troop L / Fort Pierce
2929 North 25th Street
Fort Pierce, FL 34946
ATTN: Captain Deryl Loar

Dear Captain Loar,

I would like to share with you an unfortunate and somewhat "embarrassing" incident that happened to me on Friday, May 13th. My wife and I along with our two young children were on our way from the Keys where we live to visit my brother and his family who live in Jensen Beach. About four miles south of the Stuart exit off of interstate 95, my car quit running. Although I was low, the fuel light never came on. I coasted to a stop, turned the key, and checked the gauges. Sure enough, I was on dead empty. I was able to drive another two miles until my truck died for good. As you can imagine, sitting on the side of I-95 at 4pm on a Friday afternoon with two crying children and a rather "irritated" wife can be a little stressful.

Not knowing the area and without a lot of options, I dialed *FHP from my cell phone, and spoke with a lady at dispatch. She was very understanding, told me NOT to leave the vehicle, and that she would send someone to me. About ten minutes later, Officer Yunas from Troop L arrived. I informed him of the situation and he drove me up to the next exit to get gas. We arrived back at my vehicle, added the gas, and I was off and running immediately.

Officer Yunas is definitely an asset to your group. He arrived promptly, got me to the gas station and back to my vehicle quickly, stood by until he was sure that my car was running, and was very polite and professional the entire time. Most importantly, he assured my wife and kids that everything would be okay.

State troopers have a difficult and I am sure sometimes thankless job. Assisting me with my troubles may have been a "small" thing and just a part of the job, but in my mind was a very big deal and for that I thank you.

Please pass along one more note of thanks to Trooper Yunas for his help and assistance

Sincerely



Matt Cochran
Big Pine Key, FL

Cc: Colonel Christopher Knight

